

CLASS WAR

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HOUSING AND IPAS



A RACKET DRESSED UP AS POLICY

Housing and IPAS are both perfect examples of how the government literally throws public money at private operators, while washing their hands of any responsibility. Decades of neoliberal policy and free market economics have seen the wealthy accrue yet more wealth, while the vast majority of us face an ever growing cost of living crisis and mounting rents. The longer this goes on for, the more “normal” it becomes. The government call it “emergency accommodation,” but it’s really a lucrative business, a way for a handful of landlords and contractors to line their pockets while working-class people, Irish and migrant alike, live in misery.

The Journal announced on 02/12/25 that Dublin City Council had approved the re-zoning of 52 hectares of land in the Kilemore and Inchicore area, which would facilitate the building of 5300 new homes. This despite the fact that, only a week before, Dublin City Council voted down funding for the DART+ South West upgrade. This route would connect Dublin Heuston with Celbridge, Co. Kildare, and run directly through the Kilemore area, but now there is an area re-zoned for housing but without a public transport connection.

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Welcome to the latest edition of Class War, the anarcho-syndicalist bulletin from members of Organise! in the Republic of Ireland.

The name of our bulleting is inspired by Camillo Berneri's newspaper *Guerre de Classe* which was edited by him in Italy and then, in exile, in Spain until his assassination on May 5th 1937. Berneri along with Francesco Barbieri were taken out of their apartment by a dozen plainclothes men with red armbands and police. The corpses of the two Italian anarchists were found riddled with bullets - assassinated by Stalinist counter-revolutionaries during the Spanish Civil War.

Our focus is unashamedly working class. We would

WELCOME TO CLASS WAR!

refute however that there is anything 'reductionist' about asserting this. We see class as the fundamental cleavage in society and the working class, as a whole, as the group which has a real interest in the destruction of capitalist exploitation and oppression and the replacement of states, nations and corporations with a new world based on equality, freedom and libertarian communism.

We do not hold with stereotypical notions of a

white, male industrial working class. We see capitalism as a racialised, and (while patriarchy is older than capitalism) patriarchal system. Nor do we idealise the working class, we are kept in ignorance and fed a diet of misinformation in order to keep us ignorant, brutalised and divided. We are deliberately distracted from our common interests and conned into the mistaken belief that we have interests in common with our 'native' bosses and politicians.

For us the working class consists in the vast majority of humanity and in this majority lies the hope for a social revolution that can save us all from the barbarism and destruction of capitalist greed and war.

HOUSING AND IPAS: A RACKET DRESSED UP AS POLICY

Under new legislation introduced by "Justice" Minister Jim O'Callaghan, the Irish government is now effectively playing landlord. Under the new proposals, the government plans to charge any international protection applicants who are fortunate enough to have jobs between €15 and €238 per week, depending on their earnings. And those asylum seekers who do not pay this "rent" may face court, debt collectors, or may even be refused citizenship. And it's not just the asylum seekers who are getting shafted here. The whole housing system is a disaster, and IPAS is tied up in it.

There are people granted refugee status who can't move out because there's nowhere to go. So they're stuck in limbo, and the centres stay full. Meanwhile, families and individuals born and reared here are stuck in emergency accommodation, sleeping in cars or unable to move out of their family home. Year on year, the same politicians promise to deliver affordable social housing, and year on year they fail to meet their meagre targets. And time and again, private investors swoop in to build apartment blocks en masse, further increasing the ever growing rental crisis.

Adding to the issue of supply are short term lets such as AirBnB. In Dublin alone, AirBnB maintain 5000 short term let properties. If these were returned to the long term rental market, they could potentially provide accommodation for 9000 of the country's homeless population. Meanwhile groceries, fuel, and electricity keep climbing due to an ever increasing cost of living crisis. People are spending half their wages just to keep a roof over their heads. Most young couples and single workers are stuck on the HAP scheme, where the state ends up paying landlords massive subsidies every month, public money handed straight to private profit. The worker is paying tax to fund the very landlord bleeding them dry. That's not housing policy, that's class warfare dressed up as "support."

Do the government care? Do they bollocks-this is a system that serves them and their cronies, and they're laughing all the way to the bank!

Month on month reports show that the numbers of people in so-

called emergency accommodation break the records set the previous month. As of writing (December 2025), we are looking at 16766 people, including over 5000 children, living in emergency accommodation. And because they've handed control of these properties to private contractors, there's no accountability. HIQA reports are full of warnings: centres with no proper management, no child protection, and no risk checks. But nothing ever changes. Why would it? There's too much money to be made.

IPAS centres are created with no local planning, no proper consultation fuelling resentment in working-class areas already under pressure, where services are stretched and housing is impossible to get. Then you've got far-right agitators swooping in and blaming refugees instead of the real culprits. Take for instance the riots that broke out in Coolock over the proposed IPAS centre at the former Crowne Paints site. The government's lack of engagement with residents in an area already deprived of amenities and consistently neglected by successive governments led to those with legitimate concerns around housing, etc. being manipulated by the far-right. This ultimately led to large scale rioting outside the Crowne Paints site when developers tried to gain access the site.

The government consistently play into the hands of the far-right with repeated dog whistle comments. Tanaiste and leader of Fine Gael Simon Harris announced in early November that immigration into Ireland is "too high."

While refusing to be drawn on his own opinions on this, Taoiseach Michael Martin has stated that population growth over the last 20-30 years has been the most significant factor affecting infrastructure and services. Martin also stated that the "vast majority of" asylum seekers are crossing the border between the north and south of Ireland, and that he is open to exploring all avenues when it comes to migration, including the possibility of offshore deportation hubs. It is classic divide and rule: pit working-class Irish people against working-class migrants so no one looks up who is actually profiting. Meanwhile we're all getting shafted!

Justice for Terence Wheelock



On 30/11/25, it was announced that a Dublin City Council proposal to rename Herzog Park in Rathgar set to be voted on on 01/12/25 would be withdrawn, due to pressure from both Government and US and Israeli politicians. The park in question was renamed in 1995 in honour of Chaim Herzog, former President of Israel and a man who, according to The Ditch, could be considered a war criminal. Herzog was part of a paramilitary group that massacred Palestinians,

before participating in the Nakba. The move to rename the park was met with claims of anti-Semitism from Taoiseach Micheál Martin. Also quietly withdrawn, however, under cover of the media coverage of the Herzog Park controversy was the proposal to rename the Diamond Park in Dublin's North Inner City as The Terence Wheelock Memorial Diamond Park. Then 20 year old Wheelock was detained by Gardai in Store Street Station in 2005 on suspicion in involvement in car theft. Hours after his arrest, Garda claim Wheelock was found unconscious in his cell. He then lapsed into a coma and was taken to the Mater Hospital, where he remained in a coma for 3 months before his death. In 2007, a jury at a Coroner's Court determined his cause of death to be suicide, a claim which his family have refuted. In 2010, the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission determined there was no credible evidence that Terence Wheelock had been subjected to mistreatment while in custody. To date, the family of Terence Wheelock have been campaigning for justice, dignity and truth. The proposed renaming of the Diamond Park in his honour would have been one small step towards achieving that aim.

Garda to be armed with Tasers



Having proven themselves handy with pepper spray Garda are now to be armed with tasers.

As part of a new six month 'pilot project' introduced by Justice Minister Jim O'Callaghan, over 100 Gardai are to be armed with taser guns. These will be introduced in areas where body cameras are already worn-Dublin South Central and North Central, Waterford and Kilkenny. In proposing this pilot, O'Callaghan argued that currently frontline Gardai have "limited tactical options" in potentially violent encounters. Each use of these Conductive Energy Devices (CEDs) will of course have to be reported to the Garda watchdog.

However, with the Garda SWAT team's new €500,000 armoured battle bus deployed on 29/11/25 for the Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign's national demonstration for Palestine, and the use of batons and pepper spray against protestors attempting to block Dublin Port on 04/10/25, we could hazard a guess as to the capacity the Gardai will choose to utilise these CEDs.

A Win for the Trans Healthcare Movement

The passing of the trans healthcare motion at the Dail represents a victory for campaigners such as Transgress the NGS, health care workers and other groups and individuals in ensuring the defence and extension of trans healthcare.

On 03/12/25, the Labour Party brought a motion before the Dail calling for major changes in the trans healthcare system in Ireland. This includes an informed consent model based on international best practice guidelines and identifies GPs as key to any new trans healthcare system.

This would do away with the current practice within the NGS of subjecting people to unnecessary, invasive and demeaning psychiatric assessment. However, as stated by Transgress the NGS, this victory is mostly symbolic - to ensure actual change will require more organising and an ongoing struggle. This is a fight that we in Organise! IWA are committed to backing in any way we can - trans rights are workers' rights!



SOLIDARITY WITH THE FILTON 24 AND BOEING 3



As Israel's genocide in Palestine continues despite the 'ceasefire', activists are continuing their direct action against the military industrial complex which is fuelling it. In August 2024, six direct actionists drove a modified prison van into Elbit's research, development, and manufacturing hub in Filton, Bristol. Once inside, the six dismantled Israeli weapons, including the same model of quadcopter drones used by the Israeli military to mimic the sounds of women and children crying, to lure out Palestinians to kill them.

This action allegedly cost Israel's largest weapons firm over £2 million in damage. After the six were arrested at the scene, four more were rounded up by armed counter-terrorism police. Whilst under arrest, each of the 10 were detained without charge for approximately a week and interrogated repeatedly under the Terrorism Act. Each was eventually charged with non-terror offences.

In November, there were further raids, with anti-terror laws once again being used, and 8 more activists subsequently remanded in custody, in relation to the same Filton action, taking the total to 18. Finally in July 2025, a further 6 people were arrested and remanded to prison for the same action. They are now the Filton 24. All 24 defendants are facing over a year remanded in prison before trial. Currently there are 7 pro-Palestine protestors on hunger strike in the UK.

Closer to home, on 22/11/25 at 09:30 am, three activists were arrested for disrupting a US military plane at Shannon Airport. The Pro-Palestine activists drove a van through a barrier at the Airport

and sprayed a US military plane with green paint – personnel from Ireland's Defence Forces briefly drew their weapons on the activists.

Police detective Colm Moriarty said three people driving a Ford Transit van crashed through an airside exit barrier at around 9.30am on Saturday. "They drove along the runway airside to taxi 11 at speed where there was a US military plane parked overnight," he said, adding that the plane was protected by local police and army personnel. "The van was pursued by airport police and was stopped at the side of the parked US aircraft."

While police were attempting to enter the van, two people emerged through a hole in its roof and sprayed green paint from a modified fire extinguisher, he added. The airport fire brigade helped to break open the back of the van.

Following the incident, three activists were arrested and charged with causing criminal damage to a Boeing 737-700 belonging to the US Navy Reserve. "The use of Shannon Airport by the US military breaks Irish neutrality," one activist reportedly told police after his arrest. "The US is a belligerent power complicit in the genocide of Palestinians."

The US military has for decades used Shannon Airport as a stopover and refuelling point for aircraft on their way to wars in the Middle East and elsewhere. Activists suspect recent flights may have been used to transport arms to Israel for use in its genocide in Gaza.

Oppose the Extradition of Gabriel Pombo da Silva!



On the afternoon of Friday 5th December three cops turned up at Gabriel Pombo da Silva's door to order him to appear before the court on Sunday 7th December by order of the Audiencia Nacional (one of the Spanish state's highest courts). This is most likely due to the threat of extradition to Italy where a court in Turin sentenced

our comrade to 2 years in jail in 2022 as part of the "Scripta Manent". Thankfully Gabriel was not at home when the cops arrived.

Of course our comrade was in jail in Spain at the time of this trial and was found guilty of "incitement to commit an offence". The court in Turin have demanded that our comrade appears before it and is refusing any alternative to prison because they have decided Gabriel has shown a lack of "lack of self-criticism of his own values". This reveals the explicitly political nature of the prosecution and the Italian courts attempt to impose another prison sentence on a comrade who, even the Spanish state has recognised, has already spent too long behind bars.

Organise! IWA stand in solidarity with Gabriel Pombo da Silva and the CNT AIT Prisoners Committee in opposing any extradition to Italy. Down with the prison walls!

CAREDOC WORKERS TO STRIKE OVER DELAYED 2023 PAY INCREASE!



Workers at Caredoc facilities have announced their intention to commence industrial action in the form of a withdrawal of labour, from December 18th.

An 8% pay rise agreed in October 2023 has still not been paid to workers providing essential and life saving services.

SIPTU and the INMO Unions are seeking the implementation of the 2023 Workplace Relations Commission pay agreement for Section 39 organisations, specifically the 8% increase due to members working in Caredoc.

Caredoc provides a range of services around the country, including GP out-of-hours services, telephone triage and community intervention. Workers, who include nurses, call takers, drivers, receptionists and admin staff, ensure 24/7 access to essential healthcare. The HSE confirmed to the trade unions that they provided €647,834 to Caredoc in May 2025 for the purpose of paying this increase to staff. However workers are still waiting on this money hitting their pay packets have vowed to take industrial action.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION POLICY AN ATTACK ON MIGRANT WORKERS

Organise! IWA condemns the Irish government's Family Reunification policy as a direct attack on migrant workers' and their families

The policy published on Wednesday, 26th November by the Department of Justice, introduces new restrictions including application fees, stringent accommodation checks, and an income assessment for migrant workers in Ireland seeking to have their families join them. This policy will make that almost impossible and sends the clear message that while migrant workers are essential to Ireland's capitalist economy - their families are not welcome!

The new income thresholds of €30,000 a year if you want your spouse to live with you and €50,200 a year to be joined by one child from 2026, will of course penalise low-paid workers in essential sectors like care, hospitality, and food production, where there are acknowledged labour shortages. While the bosses rely on migrant workers to fill these jobs the government are forcing these workers to leave family behind.

SIPTU echoed Migrant Rights Centre Ireland's call for the Minister for Justice to urgently reconsider the policy, warning it will harm worker wellbeing and undermine essential frontline services.



OPPOSE DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL RENT HIKE



Dublin City Council senior officials have announced crippling rent hikes for tenants in the some 26,000 homes across the city.

Proposed increases of 15% to 18% for primary tenants and almost doubling the rent of all subsidiary earning tenants from €21 to €40 per week increases of over 50% for the poorest DCC tenants! Eoghan Courtney, a CATU member in the Liberties, said “A lone parent on social welfare will see an increase of around 20 euro a month, which effectively wipes out the recent social welfare increases. In households where young adults are forced to stay living at home due to the housing crisis the impact will be severe. In a family earning roughly 1,000 euro a week with two adult children at home the increase could run to between €100 and €200 per month. That level of rent rise removes any ability to save and places enormous pressure on families already juggling rising rent, bills, groceries and transport costs.”

They Break Our Legs And Expect Us to Say “Thank You”.

Much of the coverage of these rent hikes place their emphasis on council rents remaining below the (artificially inflated and crippling) market average. Rents will increase but they are still lower than the

rents most working people can’t afford so the argument is to remain grateful as DCC take more money out of your pocket during a period of rampant capitalist profiteering. Moreover this is a blatant attempt to undermine opposition and set private tenants against council tenants. Make no mistake if DCC get away with this other councils will follow their lead.

Parasite landlords and unaffordable rent must not be held up as the new normal. The poor state of council housing has also been used as an argument in favour of a rent hike - so that argument rests on the flawed logic that tenants should pay more for substandard housing! Fuck that!

In the short-term we need to build a campaign for rent caps, a ban on evictions and the building of social housing. We remember though that every concession we force from the state or employers can and will be clawed back from us in the future. The only meaningful change will come with a social revolution that puts our class - the working class - in direct control of our communities and workplaces. A social revolution that will allow us to ensure that the needs of humanity rather than the greed of profiteers and their lackies in government are met.

Neither NATO Nor Russia - End Militarism End War!



The choreographed visit of Ukraine's President Zelenskyy to Ireland is far from the support of the underdog that government and media would like us to believe. Organise! IWA is clear - the war in the Ukraine is a war between the clashing imperialist interests of Putin's Russia and those of NATO's imperialist ambitions and cynical

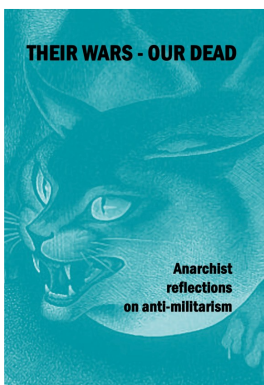
disregard of the lives of working class Ukrainians as it conducts a war by proxy.

Russia, the US, EU and NATO powers, are all trying to consolidate or expand their imperialist spheres of influence. While Europe ramps up its military spending pressure has been increased on the Irish state to join NATO or at least increase its support for an increasingly militarised EU. Over 300,000 people have been killed during the war - victims of an imperialist powerplay that is not in the interests of the working class in Ukraine, Russia, Europe or globally.

The Irish state's support for an increasingly militarised Europe can be seen in the announcement that they will provide a further €100m in military supplies to continue the war.

Organise! IWA stand opposed to militarism and war and for revolutionary working class self organisation against all states. We stand with the deserters and those fleeing the death and destruction wrought by imperialist powers in Ukraine and all over the world.

Their Wars - Our Dead. Anarchist reflections on Anti-Militarism



Their Wars Our Dead: Anarchist reflections on anti-militarism since the invasion of Ukraine

Alex Alder and Bill Beech (eds.) 154pp
ISBN 978-1-914567-74-2

Active Distribution 2025

Hot off the press *Their Wars - Our Dead* is an invaluable and timely reassertion of the anarchist movement's internationalist and antimilitarist perspective - something that has been notably absent in the anarchist 'scene' in the wake of the Ukraine war.

TWOD kicks off with an introduction by editors Bill Beech and Alex Alder (*British Anarchism Succumbs to War Fever*). They set out the context of the book and its subsequent chapters in relation to the Russian state's invasion of the Ukraine and the response of anarchists to that invasion. The introduction ends with a call for anarchists and others to "rediscover anti-militarism".

The next chapter, by Declan McCormick, *Defeatism in More Senses Than One* gives a historic overview of internationalist anarchist opposition to militarism and war

with particular emphasis on the role of 'anti-imperialism', 'anti-fascism' and nationalist identity politics in mobilising support for militarism and war. This chapter makes clear that ideologies removed from anarchism and which have little to do with libertarian communism have impacted on the decisions made by anarchists in relation to the Ukraine conflict.

Next, Andrew Żywności's *Conscription in the Current and Coming Wars* looks at how conscription is used to "...tie the masses to the long-term stability of the state". They take an in-depth look at Israel, Russia and Ukraine exposing the lengths to which the latter two are going in order to ensure they have bodies on the frontline and material support for the continuing war. The chapter exposes the opposition within both Russia and Ukraine to the war efforts of both states. They also examine the small but growing opposition to conscription for the Israeli state's war on Gaza and look at the differences and tensions amongst those who are refusing to fight.

By The Skin Of Our Teeth: The Troubles, Militarism and Anarchists in Ireland by Jason Brannigan begins with a refutation that 'western' anarchists have nothing to say as they have no experience of imperialism. This chapter explores libertarian responses from a range of

anarchist groups and organisations in Ireland to British imperialism, the Orange state, nationalist militarism and sectarianism in the North of Ireland. Charting the birth of organised anarchism in Ireland, which is bound up in the emergence of the civil rights movement, through the troubles and into a 'post-conflict' society, this chapter argues that support for militarism is ultimately damaging both to working class interests and libertarian communist goals.

The final chapter, *British Anarchist Opposition to the Second World War* by Jasmine Lloyd elaborates on a position that is often seen as problematic given representations of that war as a war against fascism. Nonetheless anarchists seeing through the propaganda opposed the war as one waged between competing imperialist interests. Jasmine Lloyd focuses on the role of libertarians and anti-parliamentary communists in the period the movement's regular press, represented in *War Commentary* held an anti-militarist line in the face of concerted oppression. In their activity anti-militarist anarchists and others refused to call off the class war in the face of imperialist war.

Essential reading for those who desire a consistent libertarian communist approach to opposing militarism and the coming wars. Watch out for book launches in Ireland.



ORGANISE!

**GET INVOLVED
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IWA**

Build A Working Class Alternative!

Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland affiliated to the International Worker's Association as a 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, particularly those organised on anarcho-syndicalist lines.

We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked over by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, and sick of a greedy bosses and landlords getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy, racism and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier...

The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

In the South of Ireland we currently have members and contacts in Cavan, Cork, Dublin, Monaghan, and elsewhere and we are actively building our membership. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at:

<https://organiseanarchistsireland.com>

